# What is America Recycles?

**America Recycles** is a national celebration that culminates every November 15 to remind us that recycling is working and the important role each of us plays in keeping it working.

### Need ideas for a great America Recycles event? Here are a couple of events that may work for you!

## Ideas for Government Agencies ...

- \* Include a bill stuffer in employee paychecks.
- \* Include an article and/or a challenge card in your agency's newsletter.
- \* Set up a display of recyclable and recycled products in public buildings, recycling drop-off centers or shopping malls.
- \* Run the Recycle Guys public service announcements on your city cable or access station (call 1-800-768-7348 for a VHS copy).
- \* Pledge and announce to set aside procurement funds exclusively for the purchase of recycled content products.
- \* Conduct a waste audit of government offices and include a summary of recycled products currently purchased and recommend other products that can be purchase.

#### **Internet Resources**

In addition to the various print materials available, visit <a href="www.scdhec.gov/recycle/html/ard.html">www.scdhec.gov/recycle/html/ard.html</a> for more information about America Recycles 2004. Materials include a sample press release as well as downloadable challenge cards and essay contest information. Also, check out the national Web site, <a href="www.americarecyclesday.org">www.americarecyclesday.org</a>, for further information.

#### **Materials & Guidelines**

To ensure a successful ARD event, the following materials are available to you at **no charge**:

- \* Challenge cards
- \* Pencils

- \* Posters
- \* Bookmarks

If you interested in receiving any materials, please call **1-800-768-7348** to order. Quantities are limited, so call early. In an effort to measure South Carolina's success, we ask that you follow these guidelines:

- \* Call to request materials;
- \* Distribute materials through presentations, festivals and to residents that use the local government recycling drop-off centers;
- \* Collect cards (if applicable), count and bundle with number of cards; and
- \* Mail or drop off counted cards to DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201 by November 15.

A winner will be drawn from cards during the week of November 22, 2004.

The America Recycles - South Carolina Steering Committee includes: Chester County, Dorchester County, Fisher Communications, Fort Jackson, Horry County, International Paper, Keep the Midlands Beautiful, Nucor, Oconee County, PalmettoPride, Paper Stock Dealers/Sonoco, Recycling Market Development Advisory Council, Rock Hill Clean and Green, S.C. Conservation District Employees Association, S.C. Department of Education, S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control, S.C. Energy Office, S.C. Soft Drink Association, U.S. Postal Service (Greater South Carolina Cluster) and York County.

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## Tips for Schools, Colleges and Universities ...

- \* Distribute challenge cards to all students and teachers.
- \* Have a school-wide art, essay or poster contest on the importance of recycling and buying recycled products. Find local sponsors for prizes for the best entries.
- \* Coordinate a class field trip to a local recycling center.
- \* Promote America Recycles through the school newspaper, morning announcements and PTA meetings.
- \* Show the Recycle Guys public service announcements on your school's closed-circuit television (call 1-800-768-7348 for a VHS copy).
- \* For a day, integrate recycling into all subjects. Examples: calculate the number of sheets of paper that equals one ton and find out about the environmental impacts of recycling one ton of paper.

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